

Beeston u3a

Open Meeting Speakers 2024 programme

2nd May 2024 – **AGM**, no speaker

6th June 2024 – **Stephanie Sirr** will speak about **Nottingham Playhouse – A Regional theatre with an international reach.**

Stephanie Sirr MBE has been CEO of Nottingham Playhouse for over 20 years after stints running theatres in Blackpool and Somerset. She will talk us through the highs and lows of running a theatre in a cost of living crisis, tell us how being both the creative factory and the shop keeps the Playhouse a theatre with a regional remit and throw in some unrepeatabe anecdotes for good measure.

4th July 2024 – **Dr Christine Christie** will give a talk on **A Brief History of the English Language.**

Christine will survey the languages that have been spoken in Britain and the origins of the English Language to illustrate how it has developed over time.

1st August 2024 – **Simon Croson** 'A beekeepers year'

Simon will speak about the practise of beekeeping, illustrated with his own beautiful photographs.

5th September 2024 – **Chris Matthews** will speak about the **Nottingham Lace Walk.**

Manufactured lace had a momentous impact on Nottingham: helping to change a turbulent county town into a modern industrialised municipality. This illustrated talk will show the sheer scale and speed of this change around Nottingham city centre.

3rd October 2024 – **Sara Goodacre** is Professor of Evolutionary Biology and Genetics at the University of Nottingham and has appeared on the BBC under the title 'Spiderwoman'. She will speak about her fascinating research about spiders.

7th November 2024 – **Noel Kelly** will deliver a talk titled **Remembering the fallen: The Legacy of the Commonwealth Grave Commission.**

Beeston u3a member Noel will include references to the contribution of Beeston and Nottingham.

5th December 2024 – **Jeanie Barton** will headline a **Beeston u3a Christmas revue.**

Relevant groups will be invited to contribute spoken and musical contributions, interspersed with Jeanie Barton festive songs.